

REMARKS

Claims 37-46 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-36 were cancelled in a previous amendment. In this Request for Continued Examination, claims 44-46 have been amended to more clearly define the invention. No new matter has been added.

Claims 37-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. More specifically, claims 39-41, and 43-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Cukor *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,168,444) (“Cukor”) in view of Tom Reding, *Digital Imaging Technology: What, Where, and Why in Commercial Nuclear Power* (“Reding”), and Jacobs *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,696,898) (“Jacobs”). Claims 37 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Cukor, Redding, and Baker *et al.* or Jacobs as applied to claim 46 above, and further in view of Wang *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,490,217) (“Wang”). Claim 38 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Cukor and Reding as applied to claim 46 above, and further in view of Joe Dysart, *A Shortcut in the Paper Chase* (“Dysart”). These rejections have been rendered moot in view of the amendments herein.

The cited references do not teach or suggest the amendments made herein to independent claims 44-46. Claim 44, as amended, recites “means for storing images in a plurality of formats, wherein a first transaction data folder stores a first format of an image and a second transaction data folder stores a second format of the image.” Claim 45, as amended, recites “wherein the image is stored in at least one format in the transaction data folder.” Claim 46, as amended, recites “transmitting the at least one image in a second format to a second regional processing center.” These amendments find support in the originally filed specification.

The cited references do not meet a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to the amended claims. In fact, Reding and Cukor teach away from these amendments. Reding and Cukor disclose storing one version of a file and searching a database for the file. Reding states “Some of the hard dollar cost savings realized by those utilities currently utilizing the technology include ... [e]liminated duplicate handling of information (i.e., controlled documents and records retention).” Page 90. (emphasis added). Therefore, Reding teaches away from storing multiple versions, e.g., duplicates, of a file.

Similarly, Cukor teaches away from the amended claims. Cukor discloses storing a file at a central storage in order to access the file from multiple locations. “[I]mages with their associated header files are transmitted to the central processing station for processing and archiving.” Col. 7, lines 18-21. Cukor’s disclosure of storing at the central processing station teaches away from the storage of a file in multiple formats at different locations. Therefore, Cukor does not teach or suggest storing more than one format of the file.

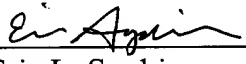
Neither Jacobs, Baker, Wang, or Dysart cure the deficiencies of Cukor and Reding. For at least the reasons stated above, the cited references do not teach or suggest independent claims 44-46 of the present application. Therefore, the undersigned respectfully submits that independent claims 44-46 are allowable over the cited art. Further, dependent claims 37-43 are also allowable as they contain the limitations of the claims on which they depend. Therefore, the undersigned representative respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 37-46.

•
CONCLUSION

Claims 37-46 are pending in the application. It is respectfully submitted that the prior art, alone and in combination, do not show or suggest the features of claims 37-46. Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below. No further fees are believed due, however, if there are any fees due, please charge to deposit account No. 501458.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/29/05
Kilpatrick Stockton, LLP
607 14th Street, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20005
Phone: (202) 508-5800
Fax: (202) 508-5858

By: 
Eric L. Sophir
Registration No. 48,499